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www.wspmn.gov

3-26-18

Smoke Alarm and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Requirements

The Minnesota State Residential Building Code requires:

Smoke Detector Requirements.

IPMC 704.2

Single- or multi station smoke alarms shall be installed and maintained in group R-2, R-3, R-4 and in dwellings not regulated in Group R occupancies, regardless of the occupant load.

Smoke alarms shall be installed in the following locations:

- On every level of your home, including finished attics and basements. *If possible place these smoke detectors near the bottom of the basement stairway and the top of the second floor stairway.*
- Inside every bedroom.
- Outside each sleeping area in the immediate vicinity (10 ft.) of the bedrooms.

Carbon Monoxide Detection Requirements.

MN Statute 299F.50 1.1

Requires approved carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in all single family homes and multifamily or apartment units effective August 1, 2009

MN Statute 299F.50 2.1

Carbon monoxide alarms shall be installed outside and not more than 10 feet from each separate sleeping area or bedroom. Alarms shall be installed on each level containing sleeping areas or bedrooms.

Detector Life Expectancy

Smoke Detectors

The life expectancy of smoke alarms is generally 10 years, after which point their sensors can begin to lose sensitivity. The test button only confirms that the battery, electronics, and alert system are working; it doesn't mean that the smoke sensor is working. Smoke detectors will have a build date on the back. If there's no date it will need to be replaced.

Carbon Monoxide

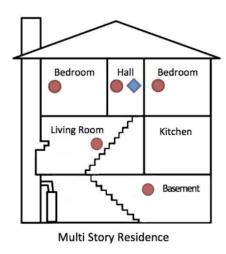
CO detectors only have a seven-year life expectancy. CO detectors will have a build date or an expiration date on the back. If there's no date it will need to be replaced.

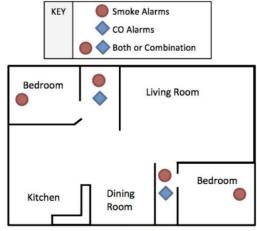
Replacement of existing detectors

Smoke detectors and CO detectors that exceed their life expectancy will need to be replaced.

Existing detectors must be replaced with the same type as currently installed. Hard wire detectors must be replaced with hard wire detectors. If desired battery powered detectors may be replaced with hard wired.

Detector Locations





Single Story Residence

Smoke detectors

Carbon Monoxide

Since carbon monoxide is roughly the same weight as air, it neither rises toward the ceiling nor sinks to the floor. Locate them within 10 ft. of sleeping areas but at least 15 ft. away from fuel-burning appliances.

